

Approved: 3/31/09
Date

MINUTES OF THE HOUSE JUDICIARY COMMITTEE

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Lance Kinzer at 3:30 p.m. on March 5, 2009, in Room 143-N of the Capitol.

All members were present except:

Representative Jeff King- excused

Committee staff present:

Melissa Doebelin, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Matt Sterling, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Jill Wolters, Office of the Revisor of Statutes

Athena Andaya, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Jerry Donaldson, Kansas Legislative Research Department

Sue VonFeldt, Committee Assistant

Others attending:

See attached list.

HB 2109 - Kansas uniform health care decisions act.

Appearing before the Committee was Judge Sam Bruner from Overland Park, Kansas, who is a Retired District Judge from the 10th Judicial District and Chair of the Judicial Council Guardianship and Conservatorship Advisory Committee.

In December 2005, the Judicial Council assigned to its End of Life Decisions Advisory Committee the task of reviewing Kansas statutes relating to durable powers of attorney for health care decisions and other advance directives such as living wills with the goal of consolidating these statutes into a single act. The Committee was also asked to consider including new provisions as appropriate to a comprehensive advance directives act.

Judge Sam Bruner was a part of that Committee and therefore Chairman Kinzer invited him to speak before the Committee to review the many facets of the bill and to answer any questions the members may have.

Staff advised eight other states have adopted a uniform health care decisions act to date.

Chairman Kinzer asked the staff to review and advise what is the current policy regarding Page 7, Section 8, Line 40(e), giving a health care provider or a health care institution a choice to decline services for reasons of conscience or policy.

Randy Hearrell, Judicial Council, stated he could provide a copy of the proposed Form that will go with this regulation, if nothing is changed.

Chairman Kinzer thanked Judge Bruner for his time and sharing of his knowledge which gave the committee members an opportunity to digest this bill section by section.

The next meeting is scheduled for March 9, 2009.

The meeting was adjourned at 5:00 p.m.